

T-394
Wye Mills Feed Company
11791 Cordova Road
Cordova
Ca. 1920-1960
Private

Wye Mills Feed Company, currently known as Talbot Grain, is located on 9.84 acres of land in the community of Cordova in Talbot County, Maryland and contains twenty-eight structures. The structures include four warehouses, a seed house, storage buildings, an office, a caretaker's cottage, a water tank, seven fertilizer tanks, a scale, and a grain elevator with twelve tanks.

The Wye Mills Feed Company property represents an intact collection of buildings associated with the historically important development of the local and regional agricultural markets and the development of local industry. The property, also known as Talbot Grain, was purchased by Saulsbury Brothers, Inc in 1913 from Harvey L. Cooper and his wife. Saulsbury Brothers Inc. established a cannery on the site. In 1911 and 1915, the Talbot Packing and Preserving Company acquired the site in two tracts. The company went bankrupt, and the property was sold at auction in 1939 to the Phillips Packing Company. Phillips Packing Company was purchased by the Consolidated Foods Corporation in 1957 and the cannery continued to operate until 1960, when the property was sold to Alfred B. and Calvin C. Covington, who founded the Wye Mills Feed Company. The company was sold to Talbot Grain, Inc. in 1981.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. T-394

1. Name of Property

historic Wye Mills Feed Company
other Talbot Grain

2. Location

street and number 11791 Cordova Road N/A not for publication
city, town Cordova vicinity
county Talbot

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Thomas and Susan Campbell
street and number 105 Myrtle Street telephone 410-226-0213
city, town Oxford state MD zip code 21654

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse liber 1112 folio 575
city, town Easton tax map 11/12 tax parcel 280 tax ID number 165322

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>6</u> <u>2</u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<u> </u> <u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<u>9</u> <u>11</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u> </u> <u> </u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>15</u> <u>13</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
				<u>0</u>

7. Description

Inventory No. T-394

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary Description

Wye Mills Feed Company, currently known as Talbot Grain, is located on 9.84 acres of land in the community of Cordova in Talbot County, Maryland and contains twenty-eight structures. The structures include four warehouses, a seed house, storage buildings, an office, a caretaker's cottage, a water tank, seven fertilizer tanks, a scale, and a grain elevator with twelve bins.

The complex is located directly on Cordova Road and is arranged in a linear plan with two rows along the roadway. An abandoned railroad line is located between the complex and the roadway. The property is surrounded by domestic and commercial buildings.

Grain Elevator and Grain Bins (12), ca. 1974-present

The grain elevator, constructed from ca. 1974 to the present, is a modern steel structure connecting twelve grain bins. There are four large and eight medium sized grain bins. All of the grain bins are located on a poured concrete slab and have a steel frame. The bins are clad with corrugated metal and have conical roofs clad with standing-seam metal. The bins are entered through metal hatches. A truck scale with concrete masonry unit walls is located directly in front of the tanks.

Liquid Fertilizer Tanks (7), ca. 1960-present

There are seven liquid fertilizer tanks, constructed from ca. 1960 to the present. Tanks are located on a poured concrete slab and have a steel frame. The bins are clad with riveted steel plates and have domed roofs also clad with steel plates. The bins have metal hatches on the roof to allow for filling and the product is dispensed through valves and pumps located at the base of the tanks. Five of the tanks are located within a 4' poured concrete wall.

Seed House, ca. 1960

The seed house is a two-story timber frame structure with an undivided interior space. The building is eight bays deep and rests on a poured concrete pier foundation. The walls are clad with corrugated metal. The front-gable roof is also clad with corrugated metal and has five lightning rods and a weather vane located along the roof ridge. The building is accessed through sliding wood plank doors on all façades. Hinged wood plank doors are located on the second level. The rectangular window openings contain paired twelve-pane wood hopper sashes which have been boarded up. The second floor windows are six-over-six wood sashes. One grain elevator is located on the southeast façade of the building and a second is located in the north corner of the building. An exterior brick masonry chimney is located on the southwest façade. The interior of the building is unfinished with a wood plank floor. A wood open string stair leads to the second floor.

Warehouses (4), ca. 1920 & 1980

The brick masonry warehouse, constructed ca. 1920, is a one-story structure with an undivided interior space. The building is six bays deep and rests on a continuous brick foundation. The brick is laid using a six course American bond. The gable ends have stepped parapet walls. A stepped concrete masonry unit wall is located in the center of the building and projects up above the roofline. The side gable roof is clad with standing-seam metal over standing-seam metal and asphalt roofing layers. There are six skylights with side gable roofs located along the ridgeline which have been boarded up. The original sliding doors on the side walls have been removed and replaced with paired hinged single-panel metal doors. Single hinged metal single-panel doors have also replaced the wood plank entry doors. On the southeast façade the door openings have been enlarged and front-gabled entries with metal roll-up doors installed during recent renovations. All window opening have been boarded up with plywood panels or had one-over-one vinyl sash windows installed. During the recent renovations the interior of the building was finished with drywall partitions, a second floor was created, and the foundation was reinforced with poured concrete. The original wood plank floor and exposed trusses were not disturbed.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. T-394

Wye Mills Feed Company
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

The timber frame warehouse, constructed ca. 1920, is a one-story structure with an undivided interior space. The building is six bays deep and rests on a brick pier foundation. The walls are clad with horizontal wood boards over vertical wood boards. The side gable roof is clad with corrugated metal. The building is accessed through sliding wood plank doors on all façades. There is one six-over-six and one one-over-one wood sash window. The interior was not accessible at the time of the survey.

The second timber frame warehouse is a one-story structure with the interior divided by wood plank wall into storage bins. According to local residents, it is the remains of a three-story cannery building which was torn down with the exception of these remains which were reused as a warehouse building. The building has a modern metal frame addition which was constructed on the northeast façade forming an "L" shape. The walls are clad with corrugated standing-seam metal over vertical wood boards. The cross-gable roof is clad with corrugated standing-seam metal. The building is open on the southeast and southwest façades. There are no doors or windows. The interior was not accessible at the time of the survey. A riveted steel plate water tower is located on a steel frame base within the "L". The water tank has a hipped roof clad with wood shingles.

The remaining warehouse is of modern metal frame construction.

Office, ca. 1930

The office is a one-and-a-half story wood frame structure, constructed ca. 1930, with a double pen plan. The foundation was not visible. The building is clad with wood shingles. A bay window and vertical wood siding have been added on the northwest façade. The hipped roof is clad with asphalt shingles and has three lightning rods. The building is entered through an offset two panel nine-pane hinged wood door in the enclosed porch. The windows are six-over-six wood sashes. The building has a metal roof ventilator. The front shed roofed porch has been enclosed with vertical wood board. The interior was not accessible at the time of the survey.

Caretaker's House, ca. 1920 & 1960

The caretaker's house is a one-story wood frame structure with a hall-parlor plan and a rear shed roof addition. According to local residents, it was originally part of the ca. 1920 timber frame warehouse which was cut off, moved to this location on the property, and converted into a residence. The building rests on a continuous brick masonry foundation. The building is clad with asphalt shingles. The front-gable roof is clad with corrugated metal. The building is entered through a two panel nine-pane hinged wood entry door. The windows are six-over-six wood sashes. The building has an interior concrete masonry unit chimney. The interior was not accessible at the time of the survey.

8. Significance

Inventory No. T-394

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates

Architect/Builder unknown

Construction dates ca. 1920- 1960

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register☐ Maryland Register☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary Statement of Significance

The Wye Mills Feed Company property represents the areas of Agriculture and Commerce between the years 1920 to 1960. The property as a whole is associated with the historically important development of the local and regional agricultural markets and the development of local industry. This coincides with the increased emphasis on grain farming in Talbot County during the Post-War Recession, the Great Depression, and the New Deal (1920-1939), the World War II (1939-1946), and the Post-War Boom and Industrialization of the Farm (1946-1960) agricultural periods. The property retains several buildings that display the characteristics and building types associated with a grain operation in Talbot County during this period.

Historical Background

The Wye Mills Feed Company property, also known as Talbot Grain, was purchased by Saulsbury Brothers, Inc in 1913 from Harvey L. Cooper and his wife. Saulsbury Brothers Inc. established a cannery on the site. In 1911 and 1915, the Talbot Packing and Preserving Company acquired the site in two tracts. The company went bankrupt, and the property was sold at auction in 1939 to the Phillips Packing Company. Phillips Packing Company was purchased by the Consolidated Foods Corporation in 1957 and the cannery continued to operate until 1960, when the property was sold to Alfred B. and Calvin C. Covington, who founded the Wye Mills Feed Company. The company was sold to Talbot Grain, Inc. in 1981. The northern portion of the site containing the brick warehouse was sold off in 1994. The property is currently divided into two parcels, with the northern portion used as a boatyard and the southern portion still in use as a grain elevator.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. T-394

Harrington, Norman. *Easton Album: Commemorating the Town's 275th Anniversary*. Easton, Md.: The Historical Society of Talbot County, 1986.
Lanier, Gabrielle M. and Bernard L. Herman. *Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic: Looking at Buildings and Landscapes*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997.
Talbot County Land Records
Whitaker, James H. *Agricultural Buildings and Structures*. Reston, Va.: Reston Publishing Co., 1979.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 9.84
Acreage of historical setting 9.84
Quadrangle name Fowling Creek, MD

Quadrangle scale: 1: 24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the surveyed property is marked as current boundary as described on Talbot County Tax Map 11, Grid 12, Parcel 280. The existing parcel portion is concurrent with the historic setting, and includes character-defining resources and setting which relate to the property's construction and evolution.

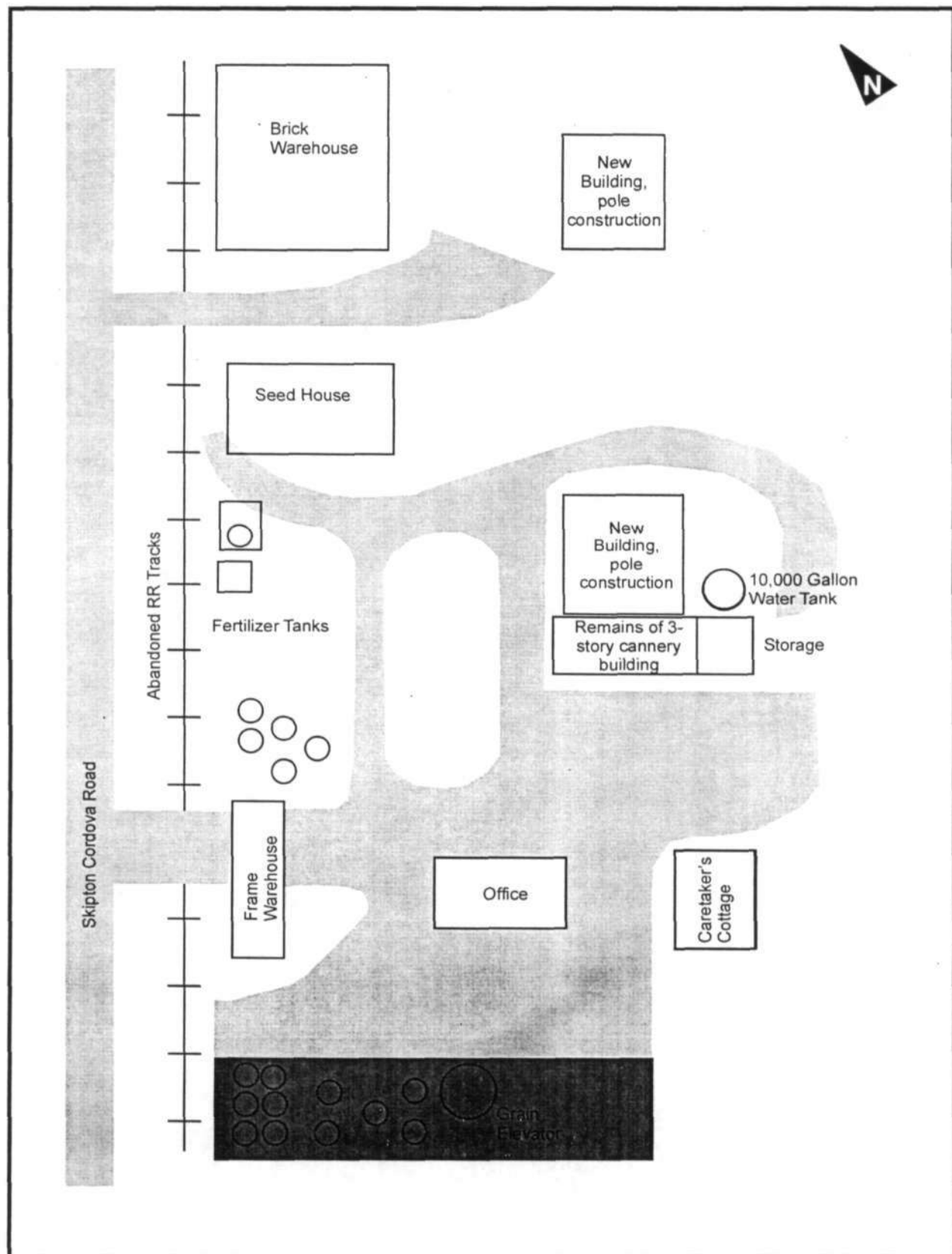
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Amy Barnes, Architectural Historian		
organization	URS Corporation	date	12-08-03
street & number	7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700	telephone	301.652.2215
city or town	Bethesda	state	MD 20814

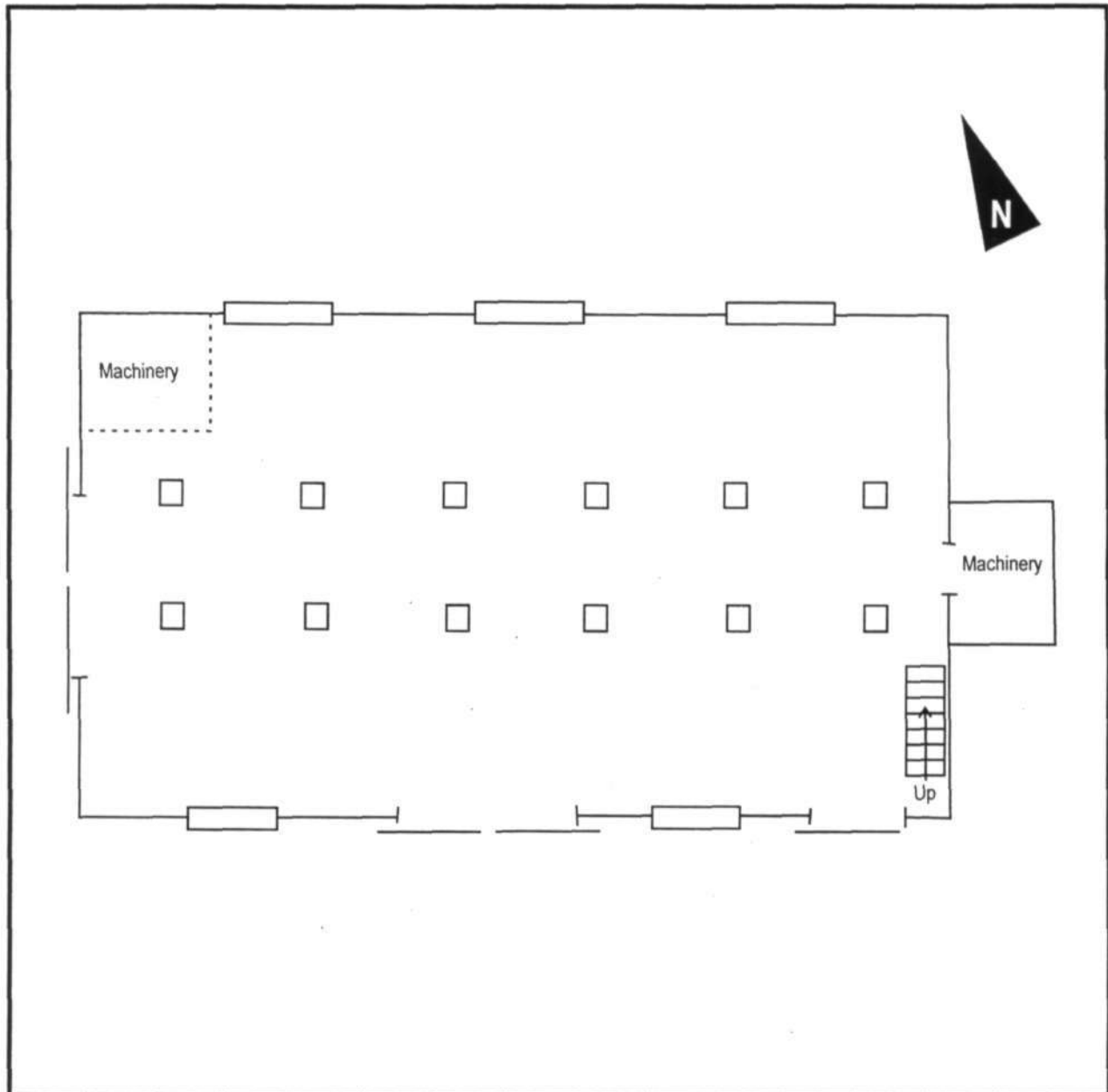
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

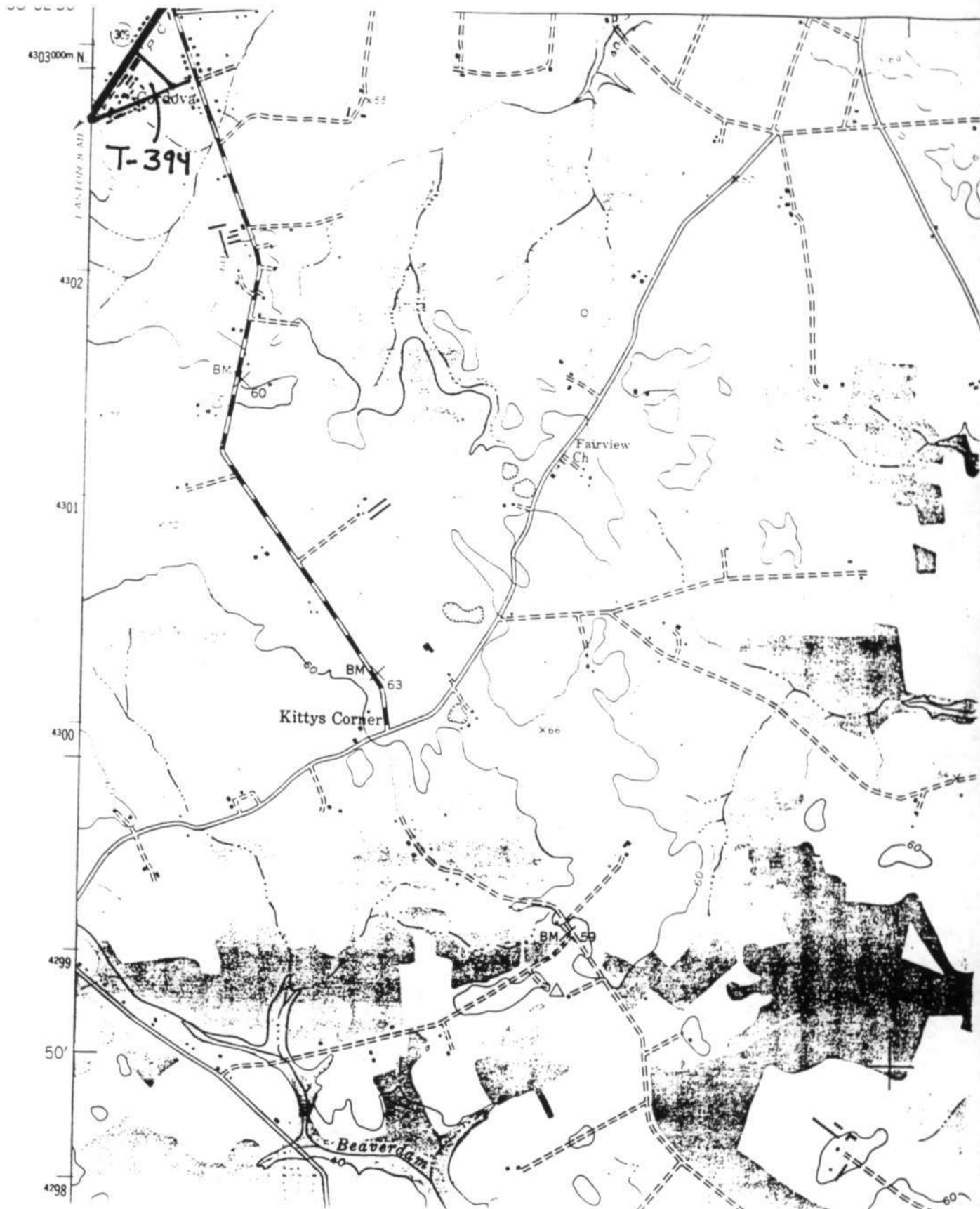
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



T-394
Wye Mills Feed Company
11791 Cordova Road
Talbot County
Seed House Plan - 2003



T-394
Wye Mills Feed Company
Fowling Creek, MD USGS Quad (1: 24,000)





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Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

11/17/03

PMD SHPO

OVERVIEW of complex from Hwy. look

1/22



T-394

Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M. Clouds

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Overview of duplex looking to

2/22



T-394

Wye Mills Feed Company

Tolbert Co, MD

M. Edwards

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Warehouse looking N

3/22



T-294

Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

7/11/63

MD SHPO

WAREHOUSE LOOKING S

4/22



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Wye Mills Feed Company

Tulbott Co, MD

10 FEATHERS

7/17/03

MD SHPO

SEED HOUSE - wing 5

5/22



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Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHPO

SEED HOUSE looking S

6/22



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Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Seed House looking N

7/22



T-394

Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M EDWARDS

17/17/03

MD SHPO

SEED HOUSE INTERIOR VIEW SHOWING EQUIPMENT
LOOKING N

8/22



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Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHPD

GRANARY (OLD) 100K w

9/22



T-394

Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M Edwards

7/11/03

HID SHPO

granary (old) looking W

10/22



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Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co, MD

M EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHPO

WATER TOWER Looking W

11/22



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Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHRO

MODERN GRANARY Corp. 2 looky SW

12/22



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Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Storage bldg. attached to modern granary
looky NW

13/22



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Wye Mill Feed Company

Talbot Co., MD

M. EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Loading bldg + office looking in

FM/22



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Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

7/17/03

M. EDWARDS

MD SHPO

CARETAKERS Cottage Look's S

75/22



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Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Caretakers Cottage looking W

16/22



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Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHPO

WAREHOUSE (FRAME) looking NW

17/22



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Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M. Edwards

2/17/03

MD SHPO

Office Space $3\frac{1}{4}$ view looky SE

18/22



T-394

Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co., MD

M. EDWARDS

7/48/0325

MDSHPO

FRAME WAREHOUSE LOCK NE

19/22



T-394

Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co, MD

M EDWARDS

7/18/03

MD SHRO

FRANK WAREHOUSE LOOK' (NE

20/22



T-394

Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co MD

M EDWARDS

7/18/03

MD SHPO

office 3/4 view looking W

21/22



T-394

Wye Mills Feed Company

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

7/18/03

MDSHPO

View of 3 buildings along RR tracks
Looky NE

22/22